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SENATOR ALLARD ANNOUNCES DOD TO RELEASE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION FUNDS FOR PUEBLO DEPOT PROJECT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) announced today that the Department of Defense (DoD) has informed him that military construction funding previously provided will be released so that site readiness work can begin on the Pueblo Depot chemical demilitarization project, as well as a similar project at Blue Grass in Kentucky.

The work slated to begin makes up "Stage 1" of the projects, and includes infrastructure work such as road construction, site grading, utilities and other preparation that does not pertain to the design and function of the demilitarization plants.

"This is the long-awaited initial step in getting these projects under way," Senator Allard said.

"I'm glad the DoD has finally decided to release these funds. It is the first positive sign we've seen in a long time," Senator Allard said. "Pueblo has been patient, but they've waited long enough. It is time to get these projects going."

Last month Senator Allard introduced legislation that would prevent the Department of Defense from spending any more money on studying the feasibility of transporting the chemical munitions from one site to another site out of state to be destroyed. He also raised the question of the demilitarization projects as they related to U.S. Chemical Weapons Treaty obligations in Senate hearings with both Secretary of State Condoleezza Rica and Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, as well as Under Secretary of Defense Michael Wynne.

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